

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Training of Intelligence Officers in the Military  
Air Force of the Soviet Army

PLACE  
ACQUIREDDATE  
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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. Training of VVS intelligence officers is conducted in various schools. All intelligence officers are former navigators or pilots who have been taken off flight status for medical reasons, or, who have been taken off flying status due to their personal desire. As a rule, all of these officers have gone through a school for squadron adjutants and have worked as squadron adjutants for a number of years before becoming intelligence officers.
2. An officer working as a squadron adjutant, who has a good attestation, may be transferred to the duty of Assistant Regimental Chief of Staff for Intelligence, if such a vacancy exists in the regiment or in other regiments of the division, etc. Such a transfer is accompanied by a promotion.
3. After the individual has been transferred to the duty of an intelligence officer he is sent to take a three or four months' course in the city of Krasnoyarsk for the training of regimental intelligence officers and assistant intelligence chiefs for the aerial photo service in higher level headquarters (from an air division to an air army, inclusive).
4. Training courses for intelligence officers are conducted in the city of Krasnoyarsk at what appears to be a small school whose function is to train intelligence officers, who have not graduated from the VVS Military Academy (in Monino), or the Lipetsk Senior Officers' Flight Tactical School.

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5. In addition to this, the officer may (according to his personal desire and the agreement of his superiors), enter the Lipetsk Senior Officers' Flight Tactical School after he has worked as a regimental intelligence officer for at least one year. If such an officer graduates from Lipetsk, he will be assigned to the duty of Divisional Chief, (or Assistant Divisional Chief) of Intelligence. An intelligence officer at regimental level and above, who has been at this work for at least a year, has the right to enter the Command and Navigators' Academy of the VVS, and upon graduation from the Academy, may be assigned to the duty of Air Divisional Intelligence Officer and above, depending upon his accomplishments at the Academy and the existing vacancies for VVS intelligence officers. Intelligence officers studying at the Lipetsk Senior Officers' Flight Tactical School (LVOLTSH) or in the VVS Military Academy study in company with other officers taking the staff course (operations officers and chiefs of staff). The graduation certificate of intelligence officers will state in which intelligence duties these officers may be utilized after graduation from the given training institution. There are no special groups for training intelligence officers at these schools.
6. An intelligence officer may be transferred to the duty of operations officer and vice-versa.
7. In all the above-mentioned schools and courses, the VVS intelligence officer is trained in the following functions: How to correctly "brief" on a reconnaissance flight, how to plan reconnaissance missions, how to train a crew in conducting aerial reconnaissance, how to compute calculations necessary during aerial photography, the tactical and technical data of aerial cameras, photo interpretation, photo evaluation, how to train other officers in data about foreign armies, aerial photo service planning, keeping records, and compiling reports.
8. In addition to the above training, intelligence officers from regimental to corps level inclusive, undergo an annual 5-10 day period of training (during which they are instructed in training methods) at Air Army Headquarters; in addition, they study ground training systems, in company with other staff officers belonging to the commander's group (in units and joint-units).
9. The following materials are used in training intelligence officers in schools: A text classified "Secret" and titled "VVS Intelligence Officer Training"; the "Combat Operations Manual for Reconnaissance Aviation"; "Headquarters Field Service Manual"; "Combat Regulations for Aviation 1948" (BUAV-48); and other volumes used in training intelligence officers published by the Voroshilov General Staff Academy and by other academies whose names I have forgotten.
10. The book, "Training of VVS Intelligence Officers" contains a description of all aerial cameras used in the VVS, all calculations which are necessary during aerial photography photo interpretation, and photo evaluation.
11. The "Combat Operations Manual for Reconnaissance Aviation of 1943", includes all aspects of training a reconnaissance crew to conduct aerial reconnaissance.
12. The "Headquarters Field Service Manual" mentions the responsibilities of regimental, divisional, and higher intelligence officers.
13. The "Combat Regulations for Aviation, 1948" contains information on reconnaissance planning, training of reconnaissance crews and reconnaissance officers, methods of keeping records and reporting on reconnaissance operations.
14. The "Collection of Air Headquarters' Combat Documents" gives the form of all intelligence documents pertaining to reconnaissance.

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